

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US, MASS, OCLR

SUBJECT: AMB. ADDOU'S MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY NEWSOM,
AUGUST 16, 1978

1. AMBASSADOR ADDOU IN MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY
NEWSOM AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE AUGUST 16 LEFT
AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH WE HAVE SENT TO YOU BY SEPTTEL.
AS YOU WILL SEE AIDE MEMOIRE PROPOSES STEPS TO BE TAKEN
TOWARD BETTER UNDERSTANDING WITH NEIGHBORING KENYA
AND ETHIOPIA. ADDOU SAID PRESIDENT SIAD IS PREPARED
TO INITIATE THIS PROGRAM IF U.S. WOULD SEND MILITARY
SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA. ADDOU ALSO REQUESTED THAT
SIAD BE RECEIVED HERE IN WASHINGTON BY THE PRESIDENT.
IF SIAD DOES NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE,
SIAD IS PREPARED TO RESIGN AND TURN THE GOVERNMENT OVER
TO MILITARY OFFICERS WHO ARE LIKELY TO TRY TO RE-ESTABLISH
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TIES WITH THE SOVIETS.

2. IN RAMBLING, OVER ONE HOUR TALK, ADDOU STRESSED
SIAD DEPRESSED BY LACK OF MORE OVERT SUPPORT BY U.S.
FOR HIS DECISION TO TURN TO WEST. SIAD'S RECENT VISITS
TO CONSERVATIVE ARAB AND WEST EUROPEAN NATIONS WERE

NOT AS SUCCESSFUL AS HE HAD HOPED BECAUSE IN ALL SIAD'S
TALKS HE HEARD THE SAME REFRAIN: THE U.S. IS HOLDING
BACK IN ITS SUPPORT TO SOMALIA. IF THE U.S. BACKS
SOMALIA, SIAD BELIEVES, OTHERS WILL TOO.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING BY NEWSOM, ADDOU SAID
SIAD IS NOT POLITICALLY STRONG ENOUGH NOW TO STOP SOMALI
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO THE LIBERATION FRONTS IN THE OGADEN.
IF THE U.S. ACCEEDS TO SIAD'S REQUESTS, SIAD'S POPULARITY
WOULD INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY IN SOMALIA AND THEN HE WOULD
BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM OUTLINED IN THE AIDE
MEMOIRE, AS WELL AS ENDING SUPPORT TO SOMALI INSURGENTS IN
THE OGADEN. SIAD WOULD ALSO END EFFORTS TO UNIFY ALL
SOMALIS UNDER ONE FLAG.

4. ADDOU SAID SOVIET PROPAGANDA TODAY IN SOMALIA STRESSES
THAT USSR HAS ALWAYS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE FRIEND
OF SOMALI PEOPLE. IMPLICATION IS CLEAR, ACCORDING TO
ADDOU, THAT IF SIAD DEPOSED AND NEW LEADER FORMS GOVERN-
MENT, CLOSE SOVIET-SOMALI FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION COULD
BE RE-ESTABLISHED.

5. DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY EXAMINING OPTIONS PRESENTED
BY SIAD'S OFFER. WILL ADVISE.

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